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09/336,424	06/17/1999	DAVID T. SULCER	04020.P001	7619

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EXAMINER
NGUYEN, HAI V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2152	

DATE MAILED: 07/17/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 07-01)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>03</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *17 June 1999* .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-52* is/are pending in the application.

     4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-52* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

     If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

     a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

         1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

         2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

         3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

     * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

     a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .

2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .   6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This Action is in response to the Application filed on 17 June 1999.

2.   Claims 1-52 are presented for examination.

Drawings

3.   This application has been filed with informal drawings which are acceptable for

examination purposes only. Formal drawings will be required when the application is

allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5.   Claims 12-52, 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over **Niblett** et al. US patent no. **6,336,135 B1** in view of **Mutschler,** III et al. U.S.

patent no. **5,940,075.**

6.   As to claim 12, Niblett discloses a method, comprising:

a) recognizing a dependence on a remote device (Niblett discloses that in Fig. 5

when a Form which includes a session identifier subsequently filled in 300 at the

browser, the session identifier will flow back to the gateway program at the server so

that the gateway program can associate 320, 330 the subsequently-received form with

the correct session, Niblett, Fig. 5, boxes 320, 330; col. 11, lines 53-67; cols. 12-15,

lines 1-67; col. 16, lines 1-52); However, Niblett does not explicitly disclose the step of

sending a message to said remote device, said message comprising either a definition,

a state change, a command or some combination thereof. Thus, the artisan would have

been motivated to look to the related networking art for potential methods and

apparatus for implementing the sending a message to said remote device, said

message comprising either a definition, a state change, a command or some

combination thereof.

In the same field of endeavor, Mutschler, related Method For Extending The

Hypertext Markup language (HTML) to support Enterprise application Data Binding,

discloses in the networking art the processing of Forms. Mutschler discloses in Fig. 6A,

the process begins in the client with a start bubble 80 followed by a process step

performed in response to entry or selection of an URL that contains certain elements,

among which are OPEN command, a FORM name, a Script name and a Partition

name. A Web browser forwards the URL to the Web server 14 without otherwise

interpreting it (Mutschler, Fig. 6A, box 81, Fig. 7, box 151; col. 9, lines 23-35; col. 12,

lines 60-67, col. 13, lines 1-12).

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skills in the networking art at

the time the invention was made to have incorporated Mutschler teachings of Form data

from Legacy application can be associated with GUI controls on a Form displayed in the

Web environment with Niblett's teachings for the purpose of retaining the existing

information technology investment in legacy programs, yet move to client/server

computing on the Web (Mutscher, col. 3, lines 35-43). Mutscher suggests that a user

can increase productivity and reduce development and training costs because using the

present invention does not require any changes to the legacy programs (Mutscher, col.

3, lines 35-430). Mutscher also suggests that the SCL can set various states of GUI

Controls associate data with them. The current state of the HTML has a limited subset

of what is doable in terms of data logic handling (Mutscher, col. 3, lines 35-64).

7.   As to claim 13, Mutschler-Niblett discloses said command (if any) further

comprises an express command (Mutschler, col. 5, lines 44-67).

8.   As to claim 14, Mutschler-Niblett discloses said express command corresponds

to a clicking a mouse button (Mutschler, col. 5, lines 44-67).

9.   As to claim 15, Mutschler-Niblett discloses said express command corresponds

to hitting an enter key (Mutschler, col. 5, lines 44-67).

10.   As to claim 16, Mutschler-Niblett discloses said express command corresponds

to selecting an option from a menu (Mutschler, col. 5, lines 44-67).

11.   As to claim 17, Mutschler-Niblett discloses said command (if any) is an

instruction command (Mutschler, col. 5, lines 44-67).

12.   As to claim 18, Mutschler-Niblett discloses said instruction command

corresponds to getting a form (Mutschler, col. 5, lines 44-67).

13.   As to claim 19, Mutschler-Niblett discloses said state change (if any) corresponds

to a new value in a form (Mutschler, col. 5, lines 44-67; col. 6, line 1-36).

14.   As to claim 20, Mutschler-Niblett discloses said definition (if any) corresponds to

the definition of a form (Mutschler, Figs. 2-4; TRIP Form; col. 5, lines 44-67).

15.   As to claim 21, Mutschler-Niblett discloses updating a GUI understanding by

processing said definition (if any) before processing said state change (if any)

(Mutschler, Figs. 5A-5C; col. 5, lines 44-67;col. 8, lines 12-67; col. 9, lines 1-22).

16.   As to claim 22, Mutschler-Niblett discloses said processing said definition (if any)

further comprises updating a definition record associated with said GUI understanding

with said definition (if any) (Mutschler, Figs. 5A-5C; col. 5, lines 44-67;col. 8, lines 12-

67; col. 9, lines 1-22).

17.   As to claim 23, Mutschler-Niblett discloses said processing said state change (if

any) further comprises updating a state record associated with said GUI understanding

with said state change (if any) (Mutschler, Figs. 5A-5C; col. 5, lines 44-67;col. 8, lines

12-67; col. 9, lines 1-22).

18.   As to claim 24, Mutschler-Niblett discloses the method of claim 12 further

comprising:

        Receiving an acknowledgement message from said remote device,

said acknowledgement message comprising either a second definition, a second state

change, a second command or some combination thereof (Mutschler, Fig. 6C, box 96;

col. 9, lines 64-76; col. 10, lines 1-14); and

        Processing said second definition (if any) before said second state

change (if any) (Mutscher discloses that the user then creates Data Names for each

field of the Form, SCL syntax will contain each of the Data Names created (Mutscher,

Fig. 2; col. 7, lines 40-65; Fig. 6A-6G; col. 9, lines 23-67; col. 10, lines 1-67; col. 11,

lines 40); and

processing said second state change (if any) before processing said

second command (if any) (Mutschler discloses that in response to inputs by user of the

client indicating completion of interaction with the displayed GUI Controls, the Web

control interprets such inputs and invokes the process that sends the data to the host

application... Next, the Web Agent parses the URL to obtain the Command. After this,

an inquiry is made as to whether or not the Command is "Transmit", Mutschler, Fig. 6H-

6K, box 126 to box 144; col. 11, lines 41-67; col. 12, lines 1-60).

19.   As to claim 25, Mutschler-Niblett discloses further comprising translating said

definition (if any), said state change (if any) and said command (if any) to a GUI

(Mutschler, Figs. 6C-6K, box 94 to box 129; col. 9, lines 64-67; col. 10, lines 1-67; col.

11, lines 1-60).

20.   As to claim 1, Niblett-Mutschler discloses a method, comprising:

        a) receiving a message from a remote device, said message comprising

either a definition, a state change, a command or some combination thereof (Mutschler

discloses that the user captures the Form using the combined facility of the

INFOConnect Emulator and the PowerClient Development Studio (PDS). This particular

Form entitled TRIP appears in the screen in Fig. 2. It is a typical Form to be completed

by an employee of an organization for reimbursement of travel expense (col. 7, lines 26-

65; Fig. 6A, box 81 to box 82; col. 9, lines 23-35; Fig. 7, box 151 to 152; col. 12, lines

60-67);

        processing said definition (if any) before said state change (if any) (Mutschler

discloses that the user then creates Data Names for each field of the Form, SCL syntax

will contain each of the Data Names created (Mutschler, Fig. 2; col. 7, lines 40-65; Fig.

6A-6G; col. 9, lines 23-67; col. 10, lines 1-67; col. 11, lines 40); and

processing said state change (if any) before processing said command (if

any) (Mutschler discloses that in response to inputs by user of the client indicating

completion of interaction with the displayed GUI Controls, the Web control interprets

such inputs and invokes the process that sends the data to the host application... Next,

the Web Agent parses the URL to obtain the Command. After this, an inquiry is made

as to whether or not the Command is "Transmit", Mutschler, Fig. 6H-6K, box 126 to box

144; col. 11, lines 41-67; col. 12, lines 1-60).

21.   Claims 2-9 are substantially the same the claims 13-19 and are thus rejected for

the reason similar to those in rejection claims 13-19.

22.   Claim 10 is substantially the same the claims 21-22 and is thus rejected for the

reason similar to those in rejection claims 21-22.

23.   Claim 11 is substantially the same the claims 23 and is thus rejected for the

reason similar to those in rejection claim 23.

24.   Claim 26 recites an apparatus corresponding to the method of operation of claim

1. The apparatus claim is obvious in that it is simply follows the logical implementation

of the method of operation indicated in the referenced claims to perform each of logical

steps of processing a Form on the network that results from the combination of the

references discussed above regarding the claim to the method. Thus, the apparatus

described in claim 26 would have been obvious in view of the elements provided in the

combination of references, which correspond to the steps in the method for the same reasons discussed above regarding claim 1.

25.   Claims 27-36 are substantially the same the claims 2-11 and are thus rejected for the reason similar to those in rejection claims 2-11.

26.   Claim 37 recites an apparatus corresponding to the method of operation of claim 12. The apparatus claim is obvious in that it is simply follows the logical implementation of the method of operation indicated in the referenced claims to perform each of logical steps of processing a Form on the network that results from the combination of the references discussed above regarding the claim to the method. Thus, the apparatus described in claim 37 would have been obvious in view of the elements provided in the combination of references, which correspond to the steps in the method for the same reasons discussed above regarding claim 12.

27.   Claims 36-50 are substantially the same the claims 13-25 and are thus rejected for the reason similar to those in rejection claims 13-25.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

28.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

29.   Claims 51, 52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Niblett-Mutschler discloses in view of well known features of using computer program

product stored on a computer readable medium.

30.   As to claim 51, Niblett-Mutschler discloses a machine readable medium having

stored sequences of instructions which when executed by a processor, cause the

processor to perform the method steps of claim 1.

The Examiner takes **Official Notice (see MPEP 2144.03)** that it is well known in

the networking art to utilize a computer readable medium for the storing and execution

of the method and apparatus in order to a Form on the network. Therefore, it would

have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the networking art at the time the invention

was made to have included the use of a computer readable medium to store and

execute the procedures of message tracking because use of storage medium for

programs used in general purpose computer to execute special purpose functions was

routine in the art (Mutschler, cols. 1-14).

31.   As to claim 52, Niblett-Mutschler discloses a machine readable medium having

stored sequences of instructions which when executed by a processor, cause the

processor to perform the method steps of claim 12.

The Examiner takes **Official Notice (see MPEP 2144.03)** that it is well known in the networking art to utilize a computer readable medium for the storing and execution of the method and apparatus in order to a Form on the network. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the networking art at the time the invention was made to have included the use of a computer readable medium to store and execute the procedures of message tracking because use of storage medium for programs used in general purpose computer to execute special purpose functions was routine in the art (Mutschler, cols. 1-14).

32.   Further references of interest are cited on Form PTO-892, which is an

attachment to this action.

33.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Hai V. Nguyen whose telephone number is 703-306-

0276. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00-3:30 Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on 703-305-4815. The fax phone numbers

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7240.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or

proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-

3230.

Hai V. Nguyen
HN
Art Unit 2152
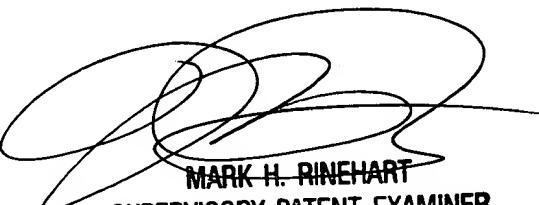
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